Mirfield Pre-School After School Club



St Richards Vicarage, Hallmoor Road, Birmingham, B33 9QY

Inspection date	21 June 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2	
е	early years provision	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2	
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2	
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2	
Outcomes for children		Good	2	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children behave well and are kind and considerate to others. They are independent and enjoy taking responsibility for their play environment. For example, they help tidy away toys after activities and serve themselves at mealtimes.
- Staff ensure that children with special educational needs or disability receive the help they need to make rapid progress. They promptly identify children's needs and work closely with parents to seek specialist guidance.
- Children form warm, caring bonds with staff and each other. Staff provide a well resourced and welcoming environment where children feel safe and confident.
- Staff work closely in partnership with parents. For example, they accompany parents on school visits and offer support regarding their children's school placement.
- Children make good progress from their starting points in all areas of learning and especially with their communication and language skills. They are well motivated and keen to participate in various learning experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, in their eagerness to support children's play, staff do not give them enough time to respond to their questions and think through their ideas.
- The monitoring of staff performance does not focus enough on areas for development to help raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- allow children more time to respond to questions, develop their thinking skills and apply their existing knowledge
- sharpen the monitoring of staff performance to focus more precisely on driving the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the pre-school manager and discussed the effectiveness of supervision and monitoring of practice.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities and spoke to children at appropriate times.
- The inspector held meetings with the management team. She also held discussions with other staff members about their roles and responsibilities.
- The inspector looked at evidence of self-evaluation, including the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation which included the safeguarding policy, children's learning and assessment records and the planning of activities.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities and know how to keep children safe. Managers regularly seek the opinions of staff and parents to inform the robust system for evaluation of the provision. This helps develop challenging targets for further improvements. Staff establish good partnerships with parents. They regularly discuss children's progress and workshops are provided for parents to help them support children's learning at home. Close partnerships are in place with schools. For example, staff discuss with teachers the best ways to support children's developing writing skills. There are clear recruitment procedures which include checking staff's suitability to work with children. Managers meet regularly with staff and support them in developing their roles and knowledge about children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Assessments are used well to closely monitor children's development and ensure each child is making progress in all areas of learning. Staff use their knowledge and experience to observe and plan for the next stage in children's learning. They quickly identify gaps in learning and work effectively with parents to support children's development in those areas. The quality of teaching is good and staff interact well with children as they play. Children enjoy group sessions and staff promote children's language and communication skills. Children draw caterpillars and butterflies and form familiar letter shapes using a thin layer of sand in a tray. Some of the older children confidently write their names and recognise the names of their friends. They look at the photographs in their learning journals and recollect their activities. Staff join in during role play extending children's communication skills, but know when to give children space so that they develop their own ideas. Staff encourage children to count independently using songs and practical activities. Children use balance scales to measure and compare size and quantity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate good skills in their independence, confidently using a dustpan to sweep up soil and sand. Furthermore, they help each other to tidy away toys, working together to solve the problem of how to fit the balance scales into a box. Staff share warm and responsive relationships with children which help children to feel safe. Children benefit from nutritious, healthy meals and snacks. Their good health and physical well-being are further supported by regular outdoor play. Staff plan activities that encourage children's understanding of their own and others' cultures and traditions.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children benefit from a wide variety of learning opportunities and their early literacy and mathematical skills are developing well. For example, they use mathematical language, such as size and volume, freely in their play. Children learn to be independent, capable and self-assured. This helps to prepare them for their future learning and enables them to make a smooth transition to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY483595

Local authority Birmingham

Inspection number 996277

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 11

Total number of places 20

Number of children on roll 54

Name of registered person

Gail Hunt and Claire Cookson Partnership

Registered person unique

reference number

RP910633

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 0121 785 0852 07970 064 994

Mirfield Pre-School After School Club was registered in 2014. The setting employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds appropriate early years qualification at level 6, one at level 5, six at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school operates from 8.30am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, during term time. The after-school club operates from 3.30pm to 6pm, during term time. The setting also offers a holiday play scheme which operates from 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during all school holidays. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children with special educational needs or disability.

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